

[30th October 1931]

- (f) The Government have so far not rejected any recommendation of the committee.
- (h) The Government are not aware that the facts are as suggested.
- (i) A statement^a showing the percentage of collection of land revenue at the end of June 1931 is appended.
- (j) The Government have not the information.

Diwan Bahadur R. N. AROGYASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—" May I ask, Sir, whether the Government have any idea of mitigating the distress in the districts? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—" They are watching the trend of prices and will consider whether any special steps are necessary to take in consequence of the economic situation. It is not possible now to make any definite statement on the matter."

Action taken on the recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee.

* 254-B Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the recommendations of the Economic Depression Enquiry Committee which have been accepted by the Government and the areas in which they have been given effect to, and how?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to the answer given to clauses (c), (d), (e), (g) and (f) of question No. 254-A.

Prices of certain food-grains and industrial crops.

* 255 Q.—MR. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to lay on the table a statement containing the prices of the important staple food-grains and industrial crops which form the wealth of the bulk of the population as shown below:—

Food-grains—
Rice and
Ragi

Industrial crops—
Tobacco,
Chillies and
Jaggery

for faslis 1336 to 1340?

A.—*Rice and ragi.*—The hon. Member is referred to the supplement to Part II of the *Fort Saint George Gazette*, in which the prices of rice and ragi for each week and month are published.

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Chillies.—A copy ^a of a letter from the Southern India Chamber of Commerce, dated 15th July 1931, and its enclosure is attached.

Tobacco leaf and jaggery.—A statement ^b showing the wholesale prices of tobacco leaf and jaggery in Madras City for each fortnight of faslis 1336—1340 is attached.

Forest Panchayats

Protest against the enhancement of grazing fees in Forest Panchayats.

* 256 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state whether the ryots of Kudligi in meeting assembled have sent a representation protesting against the enhancement of grazing fees in Forest Panchayats to 6 annas per cow unit and praying for the removal of the ban on grazing in panchayat areas during the months of May and June and if so, how the representation has been disposed of?

A.—The Government have received a copy of the resolutions passed at a meeting of the ryots of the Kudligi taluk held in July last. One of the resolutions relates to the subject mentioned by the Honourable Member. No action was taken on the resolution itself, but the question of grazing fees is under enquiry in another connexion. Under paragraph 6 (a) (iii) of the Standing Order on Forest Panchayats the period of closure of forests to grazing is fixed in consultation with the panchayats.

Diwan Bahadur M. GOPALASWAMI MUDALIYAR:—“ May I ask whether there was any consultation with the forest panchayats before the rates were enhanced? There is a feeling, Sir, that this enhancement works very hard.”

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL:—“ I have have no information whether the enhancement works very hard.”

Fees for grazing permits issued to the villagers of Gadiganur, Hospet taluk.

* 257 Q.—MR. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the scale of fees at which the villagers of Gadiganur, Hospet taluk, Bellary district, have to take out licences for grazing their sheep and cattle in the panchayat forest and whether it differs from the scale in force in the neighbouring villages of Tornagal, Papinayakanahalli, and, if so, to what extent and why; and

(b) the number of cow units up to which the Gadiganur Forest Panchayat was allowed to issue permits in the previous years and the number to which they have been restricted now, and if the number has been reduced, why?